



Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends

Firstly, I have to say a huge well done to the cast of Lord of the Flies, you all did an amazing job and the shows over the three evenings were very well received. The main characters certainly had a lot of lines to digest, and did so very well. It was heartening to see the pupils show their enthusiasm off at the end of each performance, particularly on Friday evening, as it was very clear that they had all enjoyed being part of the production. Thank you to everybody who went along to support the pupils, many of you have said how much you appreciated the production as you remember studying the book at school.

I hope you enjoyed the drinks and canapés prior to each performance, prepared by our brilliant catering team and pupils, who were on hand to serve in their chef's attire.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Gittins, Mrs Stott, Mr Day and Mrs Mahoney for their hard work guiding, encouraging and supporting each of the performers, together with all the staff who gave up their evenings to help out with the organisation.

It has been quite a while since we did a play, rather than a musical production, and it was a nice change, giving students who prefer not to have to sing a chance to shine... variety is key. Next up, will be our Year 5 and 6 students in Matilda, so please ensure you book your tickets once the details are released.

I know that some of you have been wondering about the new site as things have been quiet lately; it has been infuriating not to be able to provide you with news, but we are still moving forward and exciting times really are ahead with this development. At the end of this week, you will be able to read an update in a letter from Mrs Coley, our Chair of Governors and the Trustees of Greenacre Trust Limited, which was set up to deal specifically with the development of the new site. My thanks go to the Trustees for all the negotiations they are doing quietly behind the scenes and I am sure that you will welcome the news in their letter.

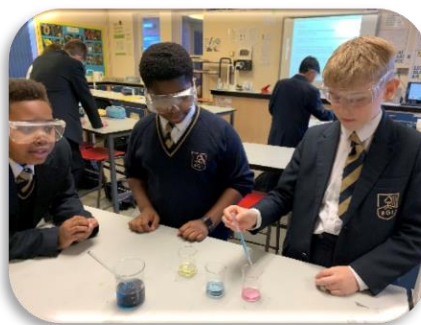


United Kingdom
Mathematics Trust

On Wednesday 1st February, nearly 70 students across both sites sat the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge. This is designed for students in years 9-11 and offers 25 multiple choice maths questions to test the students. This is a national challenge set by the University of Leeds and the top scoring students across the country will be awarded certificates at Gold, Silver or Bronze levels. These are not the type of questions that students would ordinarily see in maths lessons and it is always interesting to see how the students do. We will let you know how they fair.

Bringing learning to life

I hope you are following us on social media, if you are you will have seen that we are trying to include academic lessons in the content posted, as recommended by those who replied to the recent marketing survey. Of course, there is an overlap between our social media content and what I feature in this Blog, which ensures that everybody gets to hear about the school life one way or the other. Recently, our secondary students at both sites have been conducting practical experiments in their science lessons, investigating forces in physics and acids and alkalis in chemistry. From the look of these pictures, they are well and truly focused on their investigations.



It was also great to see the secondary students taking part in the geography classic featuring an erupting volcano. I remember this from my days of teaching geography and I also remember my son creating a huge volcano that erupted when heated by a hairdryer on our school playground when he studied here. I can only say, that this type of thing does help create real interest in subjects as my son went on to study physical geography for his BSc degree. Perhaps this photo shows us some geographers of the future?



Not to be outdone by the geography lessons, history lessons have also brought learning to life... this time with a re-enactment of the Battle of Hastings. I am sure the students are going to remember the important facts about this topic as they had so much fun learning about it.



Junior School Stars of the Week

Class	w/c 23 rd January	w/c 30 th January
Forest (Reception)	Isabella Jones	Lucy Bosworth
1M (Meadow)	Masha Sternyk	Olivia Canning
2C (Clover)	Joel Eade	Rebekka Nethersole
3E (Emerald)	Ali Babjide	Micah Ofori
3W (Willow)	Ariyan Rai	Edward Harrison
4J (Jade)	Harvey Tomlinson	Olivia Ruthven-Murray
4S (Sage)	Aamna Hasan	Emily Emms
5W (Woodland)	Kieron Kirkham	Tommy Young
5P (Pine)	Megan Pyatt-Slade	Matthew Turpie
6J (Juniper)	Kayden Charles	Emily Thomson
6F (Fern)	Yuvraj Singh	Samantha Sandati
6L (Laurel)	Hema Hindocha	Valentino Ianiri

Last week, the Year 5 students considered useful things they could use their hands for. So many brilliant ideas were thought of including, helping with shopping, sign language and assisting people who had hurt themselves. They then created artwork on hands to illustrate and remind us of all the brilliant, kind things our hands are capable of.

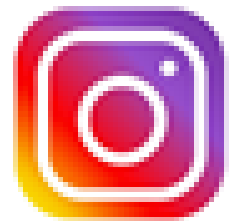


Sports News

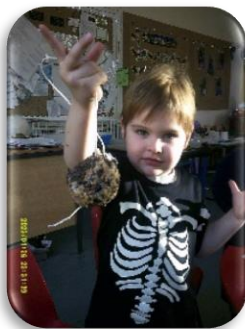


What an exciting half term our sports department have had. Despite battling the cold weather and frozen pitches we have had an array of fixtures to showcase the sporting talent we have here at BGIS. The juniors have had a number of football and netball fixtures and even participated in sport hall athletics, giving them a head start on preparation for summer sports. The seniors have again enjoyed a number of football and netball fixtures with the girls storming to success in the local netball leagues. Cross country events will commence after half term so please keep an eye out for these.

Please follow us on Instagram, [BGISport](#), for all the latest sports news. Here you can see a selection of the teams that have taken part in netball and football over the last couple of weeks. Great to see the different ages groups enjoying their sporting opportunities. Well done to everybody who participated!



Nursery News



RSPB Bird Watch 2023 marks the 44th RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch, which sees keen birdwatchers across the UK join the largest garden wildlife citizen science project by spending one hour tracking the birds they see in their gardens. Last year just under 700,000 people took part, counting some 11 million birds.

The children in Pre-School were keen to take part in this event and made their own bird feeders to attract birds to their garden. They were armed with their bird identifier sheet to see which birds they could spot!

The whole Nursery took part in our recent fundraiser for Crackerjacks Children's Trust. They held a Pyjama and onesie Fun Day where children and staff came to Nursery and work dressed in their PJ's!

Crackerjacks support families who urgently need their care by providing specialist equipment, sensory toys or respite breaks, changing their lives for the better. We are very proud to have raised £330.00!



Children in the Wrens room have been busy learning 'life skills'. They have been pouring their own drinks, drinking from cups and using cutlery to cut up their fruit snacks.

They also talked about teeth and why it is important to clean our teeth, and visit the dentist regularly. They even practised how to clean teeth properly using our giant teeth and toothbrush!

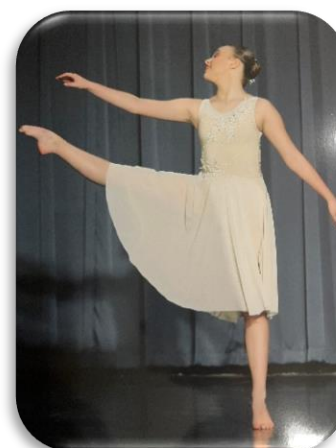


Principal's Awards

Rhys Evans for his fantastic artwork.
Yuvraj Singh for his improvement in swimming.
Grace Perry for a great effort maths.
Elle Nyomi for her effort and application in maths.
Heidi Evans for her determination and hard work in maths.
Oliver Wilkinson for excellent history knowledge of the Holocaust.
Sam Burchell for great classwork in English.
Eloisa Manser for her confidence and improvement in swimming.

Personal Pursuits

I was pleased to hear about Elsie's achievements at Welwyn Festival of Dance. Elsie competed in 3 sections and received a silver medal for her ballet, a silver for her lyrical and a bronze for her character. Well done Elsie!





Dates for your diary

Below are some dates to remember, however please look at the calendar on your parent portal for all school events, trips and residential.

Monday 20th Feb – Year 9 HPV Vaccines

Monday 20th Feb – Year 10 & 11 DTP, Men ACWY & HVP Catch up vaccine

Thursday 2nd March – World Book Day

Friday 3rd March 3.20 pm – Music Concert at Kimbolton Road

Saturday 4th March 10 am – 12 noon – Open Morning at Shakespeare Road

Saturday 4th March – Bedfordshire Festival at Corn Exchange Time TBC

Monday 6th March – Kimbolton Road Class Photos

March 6th – 10th - Year 11 Core mocks

Tuesday 7th March – Shakespeare Road Class Photos

Friday 10th March 7 pm – PTFA Quiz Night at Shakespeare Road

Wednesday 22 March 5.30 pm & Thursday 23 March 9.30 am & 5.30 pm – Y5 & 6 Drama Production Matilda at Shakespeare Road

Friday 24th March – End of Term 12 noon finish

Tuesday 18th April Start of term

Monday 1st May – Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May – Bank Holiday Kings Coronation

GCSE and A Level Public Exam Window: 15th May – 23rd June

Tuesday 16th May – Year 9 DTP & Men ACWY vaccine

Friday 19th May – Spring Ball at Pavenham Golf Course at 7pm

Friday 26th May – Half Term 4 pm finish

Monday 5th June start of term

Wednesday 14th June – BGI Got Talent Y3–13 6pm

Tuesday 27th June – Year 8 HPV Vaccine at Kimbolton Road

Wednesday 28th June – Year 8 HPV Vaccine at Shakespeare Road

Saturday 8th July Multi Cultural Festival 11 am – 10 pm at the School Field TBC

Monday 10th July – Junior Sports Day

Wednesday 12th July – Sports Day

Thursday 13th July – Senior Activity Day

Friday 14th July – Prize Giving

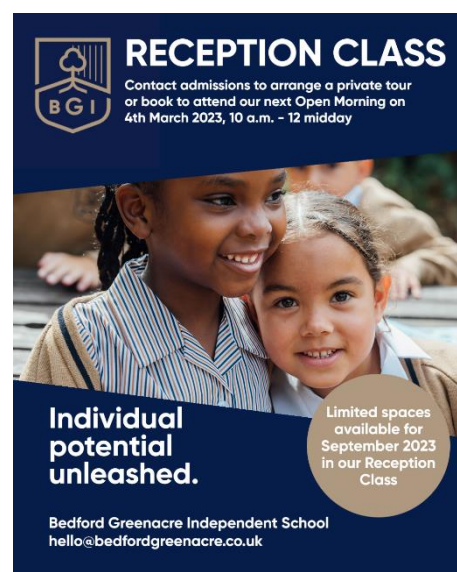
Friday 14th July End of Term finish at 12 noon

We have our Open Morning coming up on Saturday 4th March and we've had a lot of families already signed up to attend. We do have very limited spaces available in some year groups, such as Reception Class, for September 2023, so if you know anybody who is interested, please ask them to contact us as soon as possible to register.

Kind regards



I M Daniel, BA (QTS), NPQH
Principal



RECEPTION CLASS

Contact admissions to arrange a private tour or book to attend our next Open Morning on 4th March 2023, 10 a.m. – 12 midday

Individual potential unleashed.

Limited spaces available for September 2023 in our Reception Class

Bedford Greenacre Independent School
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